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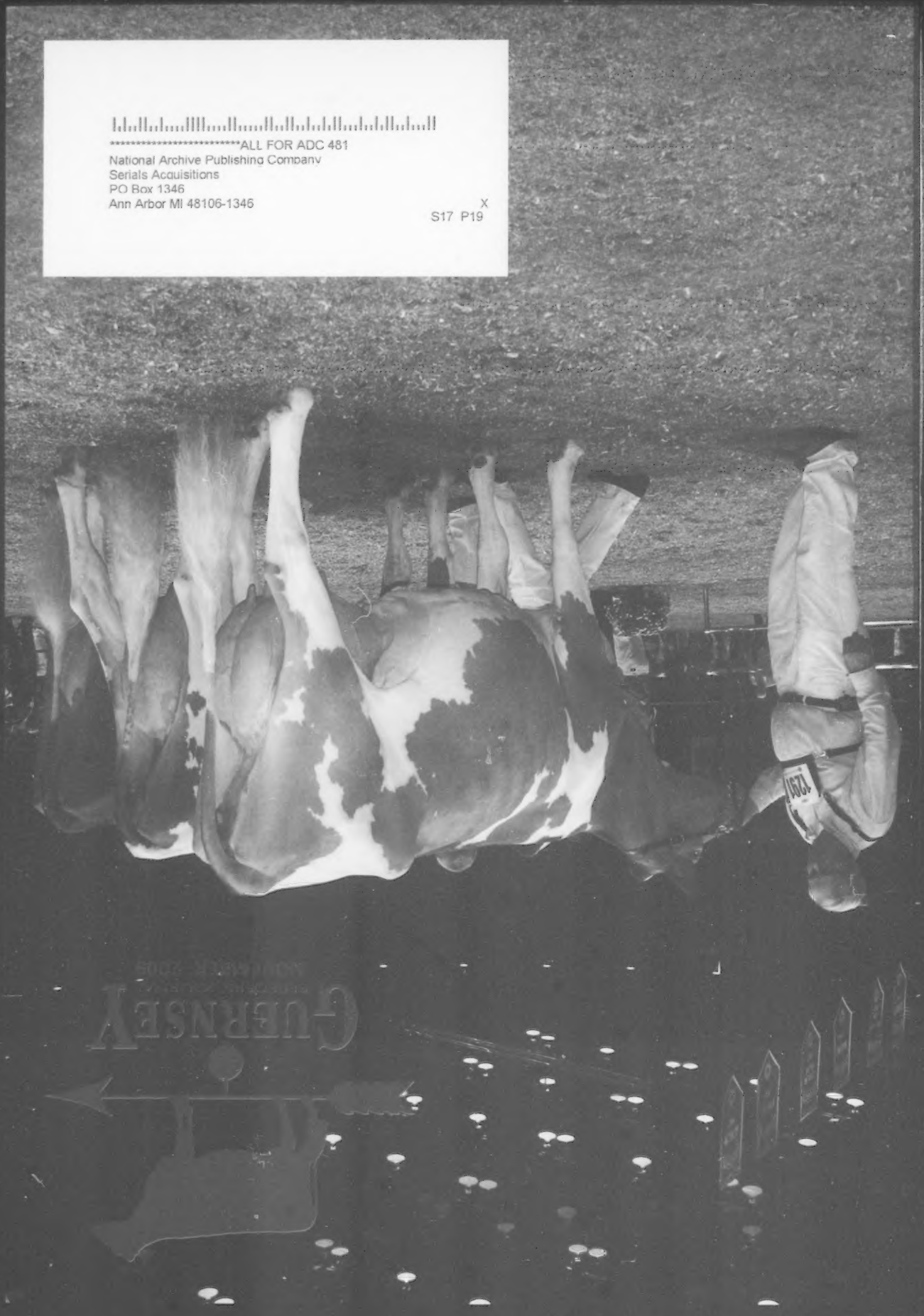

Building on this First Place Produce of Dam

Liz and Larissa were 1st Produce of Dam at NGS-Madison!

R-Way Tiller Liz EX94 95MS

3-05 365D 20,158M 5.2% 1042F 3.7% 736P
Liz was on the Tankbark Trail the same day she calved being trucked 6 hours. She was 1st 5-Year-Old NGS-Harrisburg and 3rd NGS-Madison. This will be her 4th year nominated. She has a Regis yearling due this winter.

R-Way Glacier Larissa

Larissa was 2nd NGS-Harrisburg and 4th NGS-Madison as a Jr 3-Year-Old. Never scored or on test, we expect big things from one of Glacier's finest daughters. She was fresh in August with a beautiful Fayes Fame heifer and is milking 70lbs after 3 weeks on the road! Thanks to Ashlee and the Bates Family for parting with her. Congrats to Ashlee on her winning calf at Madison and her top ten position in the showmanship competition.

Their dam is R-Way Valiant Lil Lady EX-91. Their ability to 'deal with stress' and great temperaments gives us hope they will make a positive contribution to the breed. They have the type and strength to do it all.

Millborne Farms

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Congratulations Karen!

High Individual at World Dairy Expo 4-H Judging Contest
Second High in Reasons

Moziers Kingsley Nicole of UTC *VG-86*
1st Jr. 3-Year-Old Open & Jr. Show
Res. Grand Champion NJS-Madison

Moziers Turley Passion of UTC
2nd Jr. 2-Year-Old NJS-Madison

Up The Creek Montes Hope
3rd Sr. 2-Year-Old NJS-Madison

Up The Creek Valiants Sagwa *EX-92*
5-02 365D 20,440M 5.6% 1142F 3.9% 806P
2nd Aged Cow NJS-Madison
4th & Best Bred & Owned Aged Cow NGS-Madison
Nom. All-American 5-Year-Old 2007
#245 on the CPI List

UP THE CREEK FARM

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Guernsey Junior Members won all three National Youth Dairy Judging Contests held at World Dairy Expo. There is no other youth contest in our industry that means as much to more people as the National Judging Contests – 4-H, Collegiate and Post-Secondary. These winners were all exceptional kids before this contest and it takes enthusiastic coaching, a love for cattle, lots of skill, and then a good dose of luck on one day in October to win the National Contest. Owning Guernsey cows probably didn't cause these kids to win these contests – but these talented kids chose to work with Guernsey cows!

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BREEDERS' JOURNAL

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ON THE COVER

The Kingsmill Futurity class, a 3-Year-Old Futurity, produced the Intermediate and Grand Champion of NGS-Madison, Four Winds Mentor Highlite-ET. Highlight was the winning Senior 3-Year-Old. Pictured next to her is Quality Quest Mentor Prize, the Reserve Intermediate Champion and 2nd place Senior 3-Year-Old, then followed by Walnut Corner Valiant Sam Kris, the second place Junior 3-Year-Old. *For full results from the NGS-Madison, turn to Page 7.*

A rainy day at Brookleigh Farm in Austraila makes for a beautiful background for Guernseys! Brian Schnebly visited Austrailia to judge the Royal Adelaide Show in September. *To read about his adventures Down Under and for pictures, turn to page 14!*

American Guernsey Association

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Seth Johnson

Golden Focus

Seth Johnson

Fairly often, Brian Schnebly and I are asked for mating advice on special heifers and cows and also which bulls to use in general. Many times, a Guernsey breeder will e-mail us both the same request for mating advice. I always respond without consulting Brian and find it interesting to find out later if our recommendations are similar. As we consider matings for others, we do what I hope you do on your own farms – we try to make sure we avoid inbreeding and use a variety of sires to maintain genetic diversity. Most importantly, we endeavor to reach the goals we set for that mating for economically important traits. And therein lies the challenge. Inbreeding results from selecting, generation after generation, the very best animals to produce the next generation. The most desirable genetics are used widely across the breed and, eventually, become the genetics we have to watch out for when considering inbreeding in subsequent generations. (Challenge is a great example of this. He has been used heavily because he is an outcross and still provides genetic progress for important traits. Five years from now, we will have to watch how we use his many proven sons given that most herds will already have a significant influence from him through his daughters.) It is a rare bull that gives us great progress for important traits that doesn't provide an increase in inbreeding to the general population. Therefore, it should be no surprise that all the dairy breeds have steadily increased the level of inbreeding across their populations since the advent of Artificial Insemination. So, our challenge is to find new sire lines and cow families that will help us make the genetic progress we desire without adding much to inbreeding. We are certainly doing that in our current selection of young sires being sampled and in-waiting. We just have to remember that an outcross is only useful if it satisfies both ends of the equation – new genetics and genetic progress for the traits that are important to us.

I've written about this before, but I think it is useful to revisit it. Expected Future Inbreeding (EFI) is a measure of the level of inbreeding that would result in future offspring if an animal were mated to a random group of animals from the existing population. Of course, we generally don't randomly mate sires across the population, we do give some thought to the inbreeding that could result from a mating. However, EFI is a useful measure of how related a sire is to the cow population. As we know, inbreeding affects reproductive performance, among other things. The EFI doesn't always match up to what our expectations are of an outcross sire. Many people are using Lang Haven Decision Natural as an outcross right now, and rightfully so. His pedigree contains no Tiller, Royal Oak or Luxury, making him a significant departure from most active AI sires and elite cows in the breed (and a great cross on many of them). However, his pedigree contains quite a cross-section of the same blood that is found in many, many cows – Lorry, Magic and Perfecto. So, while a useful cross on many cows, his EFI of 6.9 puts him right in the middle of the active list for EFI. On the other hand, consider Mar Ral Royal Mentor, one of many Royal Oak sons on the active list. His EFI is an Active-AI low 4.6. Although the active list is crowded with Royal Oak sons and grandsons, the cow population is not, since his semen supply was very limited. A person can generally use a Royal Oak son on just about anything in the herd since not many people actually had the pleasure of milking a Royal Oak daughter (contrast that with the fact that just about everyone has milked a Magic and a Perfecto and a Tiller). After you get past Royal Oak in Mentor's pedigree, there isn't anything that has been used heavily in the breed, providing a near complete outcross. Following Mentor as an outcross on the active list are:

Four Winds Magicman	5.4 EFI	Magic x Big Tex x P Wales
Oak Knob Legacy Daunte	5.8 EFI	Legacy x P King x Perfecto
Old Homestead Dividend	5.9 EFI	Senor x Fayette x Dari Fayvor
Golden J Ronald Grumpy	6.1 EFI	Ronald x Royal Oak x Magic

You can see that none of them are completely without a high-impact sire in their pedigree, yet most do not have more than one.

Inbreeding is not always such a bad thing. Although it can concentrate bad genes, it was employed for generations by some of the very best

Continued on Page 32

National Guernsey Show-Madison

NGS-Madison Grand Champions (l-r): Ashley Sears, National Outstanding Youth; Bob Griggs, Henry Zapalac & Dale Chupp, owners of Reserve Grand Champion; Cassie Terpstra, WI Guernsey Queen; Stanley Chupp on the halter of Mar Kat Jake Elsie; Clark & Joy Vilter, owners of Grand Champion, Four Winds Mentor Highlight-ET; Melanie Balinas, National Guernsey Princess; Udder Comfort Award Sponsor; Sarah Weimer, National Guernsey Queen; Judge Fowler Branstetter

The NGS-Madison, held on October 1 and 2 in Madison, Wisconsin, showcased some of the best Guernseys in the nation. 179 head passed through the ring to be lined up by judge Fowler Branstetter of Edmonton, Kentucky.

When it came time to select his Junior Champion, Judge Branstetter pulled out both the winning Fall Calves and Fall Yearlings. He gave the nod to the Fall Calves for carrying less condition than the big, powerful Fall Yearling. "I can't split up this pair of calves," said Branstetter as he named Eby Lawn Ebybrook Delta Mel Junior Champion. This tall, long dairy calf had more length from end to end and a bit more openness to her rib than the Reserve Junior Champion, Coulee Crest Challenge Jeanie-ET, who was also Reserve Junior Champion at Harrisburg earlier in the fall. Delta Mel is owned by Eby Lawn and Eby Brook of Listowel, Ontario. She is sired by Four Winds Royal Delta-ET. Her dam is a VG-85 Magicman daughter that was Grand Champion of the Canadian National Show in 2007 and Reserve in 2008. She has a top record over 19,800M and is from a VG-85 dam. The Reserve Junior Champion, Jeanie, is owned by Josey and Lindsay Morris of Watertown, Wis. They purchased her in the 2009 WI Video Calf Sale in February from her breeder, Coulee Crest Farm of Cashton, Wis. She is a daughter of Idle Gold E Challenge-ET from an EX-90 Skipper daughter with a top record over 20,000M and 950F.

Intermediate Champion selection came down to the winning Sr. Three-Year-Olds and the Jr. Two-Year-Old. Judge Branstetter found it an easy decision to go with the Sr. Three-Year-Old class winner, Four Winds Mentor Highlite-ET. She had the advantage of shorter teats and a more youthful mammary system over the massive-framed Reserve cow, Quality Quest Mentor Prize. Highlite is owned by Clark and Joy Vilter of Hartland, Wis. She was bred by Clark and Joy and Steve Sievert. She is a daughter of Mar Ral Royal Mentor and is scored EX-92. She made a record of 17,000M in her first lactation at 1-11. Her dam was an EX-90 Regis with over 21,000M and 800F. The next dam was Marlee Valiant Hailey, EX-94, a cow that was twice Res. All-American and made over 100,000M in her lifetime. Interestingly, Hailey is a maternal sister to the dam of the winning Aged Cow, Spring River Royal Happy, EX-95. The Reserve Intermediate Champion, Prize, is also sired by Mentor and is owned by Verl Weaver of Goshen, Ind., and Ralph Turley of Orient, Ohio. Prize is scored EX-90 and was nominated All-American as a Fall Calf and Sr. Two-Year-Old. Her first lactation totaled over 25,000M, 1,100F and 800P. Her dam was a Loral daughter. Prize was bred by Doug Dye of Beloit, Ohio.

Much anticipation surrounded the selection of Senior Champion. Judge Branstetter had broken his pattern for the day by selecting a smaller cow, Mar Kat Jake Elsie, to win the Four-Year-Old class. He pulled her to the edge of the ring along with the second Four-Year-Old, a powerful, raw-boned cow with a great udder; and the winning Five-Year-Old, a cow that is very stale but has a wide, square rump and a shallow udder with great capacity. Noting that, "they need to be 'right' on show day," Judge Branstetter selected Mar Kat Jake Elsie as the Senior Champion giving her an advantage in bloom of udder over Loyal Acres Lewis

NGS-Madison Kingsmill Futurity Winner (l-r): Cassie Terpstra, WI Guernsey Queen; Clark Vilter, owner of Four Winds Mentor Highlight-ET; Tina Vilter McDonald, leadsperson; Melanie Balinas, National Guernsey Princess; Sarah Weimer, National Guernsey Queen

NGS-Madison Fight Bac Futurity Winner (l-r): Cassie Terpstra, WI Guernsey Queen; Melanie Balinas, National Guernsey Princess; Tina Vilter McDonald, with Four Winds Regis Disco; Sarah Weimer, National Guernsey Queen

NGS-Madison Junior Champion (l-r): Cassie Terpstra, WI Guernsey Queen; Josey & Lindsay Morris with Reserve Junior Champion Coulee Crest Chall Jeanie; James Walker with Junior Champion Eby Lawn Ebybrook Delta Mel: Sarah Weimer, National Guernsey Queen; Judge Fowler Branstetter

NGS-Madison Intermediate Champions (l-r): xxxxxxxx, award sponsor; Sarah Weimer, National Guernsey Queen; Blaine Crosser with Reserve Intermediate Champion Quality Quest Mentor Prize; Clark Vilter with Intermediate Champion Four Winds Mentor Highlight-ET; Melanie Balinas, National Guernsey Princess; Cassie Terpstra, WI Guernsey Queen

Breezey, the Five-Year-Old. Elsie is owned by Tyler, Paige and Justin Chupp of Inola, Okla., and Dakota Zapalac of Schulenburg, Texas. She is scored EX-91 and was bred by Marvin Dornak of Moulton, Texas. She is sired by Lavon Farms Valiant Jake, a Perfectos Valiant son from a Goliath. Elsie's dam was a Four Winds Dollar-ET daughter out of a Perfecto. The Reserve Sr. Champion, Lewis Breezey, is sired by Trotacre Enhancer Lewis-ET and is owned by Austin and Landon Knapp of Epworth, Iowa. She is scored VG-87 and was bred by La Von and Le Roy McKittrick of Soldiers Grove, Wis. Her dam was a daughter of Sherma Enhancer Rosie Nitro.

Judge Branstetter selected Four Winds Mentor Highlite as his Grand Champion and Best Udder of the show noting that she had a tremendous advantage in width of front end and overall volume of rib compared to his Reserve Grand Champion, Mar Kat Jake Elsie.

The Total Performance Cow was Spring River Royal Happy, EX-95, owned by John and Bonnie Ayars and Sons of Mechanicsburg, Ohio, and Dr. Kenny Manion of Scottsville, Kentucky. She is a daughter of Aldens Valiant Royal and is no stranger to the showring, having been All-American in 2005, HM in 2006 and Reserve in 2007. She has a top record of 5-10 365D 27,230M 3.3% 903F 3.1% 847P and has over 100,000M lifetime already. As previously noted, she hails from the same maternal family as the Grand Champion cow, being out of an EX-91 Bossman that was twice HM All-American in milking form.

Misty Meadows Spider Dafodil, EX-94, took home the NASCO Type and Production Award given to the cow with the highest Energy Corrected Milk record that places in the top 5 of her class. Dafodil, a daughter of Coulee Crest Luxury Spider-ET, boasts credits of 3-10 365D 35,960M 4.1% 1,489F 3.5% 1,250P. She is owned by Jaclyn Peterson of Wilson, Wisconsin. Her dam is an EX-91 Perfecto with over 170,000M lifetime. Dafodil was nominated All-American Four-Year-Old in 2007.

NGS-Madison Senior Champions (l-r): Sarah Weimer, National Guernsey Queen; Melanie Balinas, National Guernsey Princess; Cassie Terpstra, WI Guernsey Queen; Lavon McKittrick, breeder of Reserve Senior Champion; Landon & Austin Knapp, owners of Loyal Acres Lewis Breezey; Stanley Chupp, Bob Griggs, Henry Zapalac and Dale Chupp, owners of Senior Champion, Mar Kat Jake Elsie; Judge Fowler Branstetter

Four Winds Farm of Hartland, Wis., and Knapps Guernseys of Epworth, Iowa, shared the Premier Breeder Banner while Four Winds earned the Premier Exhibitor award. Trotacre Loral Tiller-ET took home the Ted Krueger Premier Sire Award for the fifth straight time although the race was much closer this year. Wisconsin earned the State Herd trophy followed by Iowa and New York / New England. Prairie Cream Farm and Valley Gem Farm won the Guernsey Herdsmanship Award. Prairie Cream Farm is owned by the Lakey Family of Trempealeau, Wis., while Valley Gem Farm is comprised of the Grewe Family in Cumberland, Wis.

Spring Calf (13)

1. Chupps Hillpoint S Kyla ET, Chupp & Hellenbrand, Inola, OK; 2. Four Winds Joy June, Four Winds Farm, Hartland, WI; 3. Sandy Hill Nenos Bella, Jessica Eilers, Scotch Grove, IA

Winter Calf (19)

1. R Way Aaron Flirt, Ashlee Dietz, Southington, OH; 2. Berryman Farm Special Violet, Katlyn Vencill, Nicholasville, KY; 3. Villa Crest Fame Nina, Marlys Weaver, Goshen, IN

Fall Calf (20)

1. Eby Lawn Ebybrook Delta Mel, Eby Lawn & Eby Brook, Listowel, ON; 2. Coulee Crest Chall Jeanie ET, Josey & Lindsay Morris, Watertown, WI; 3. Littlefields Show Mona Lovely, Littlefields Farm, Watertown, NY

Summer Yearling (17)

1. Ripley Farms Ad Coni Wisper ET, Esther Ripley, Moravia, NY; 2. Prairie Moon Show Bizz, Lars, Landon & Leslie Sivesind, Waukon, IA; 3. Sniders Lindsey Adacka Adel, Walnut Corner, Bismark, IL

Spring Yearling (18)

1. Fudges Samson Jessica, Sydney Willingham, Gamaliel, KY; 2. Walnut Corner Adacka Kendy, Walnut Corner Farm, Bismark, IL; 3. Ripley Farms Aron Coni Tina ET, Evelyn Ripley, Moravia, NY

Winter Yearling (13)

1. Warwick Manor Lance Christmas, Warwick Manor Farm, East Earl, PA; 2. White Hall Archies Star, Nicley, Sims, Graves & Hoover, Pleasant Lake, IN; 3. Knapps Special Jaylo, Austin & Landon Knapp, Epworth, IA

Fall Yearling (12)

1. Dairy O Showtime Sienna, Summit Ridge Guernseys, Lynden, WA; 2. Littlefields Showtime Barley, Littlefields Farm, Watertown, NY; 3. Ludlow Acres Silverado Classy ET, Jacob Mohr, Carlock, IL

Junior Best Three Females (7)

1. Warwick Manor Farm, East Earl, PA; 2. Four Winds Farm, Hartland, WI; 3. Ripley Farms, Cortland, NY

Fall Yearling In Milk (1)

1. Four Winds Tiller Debutante ET, Four Winds Farm, Hartland, WI

Fight Bac Futurity (2)

1. Four Winds Regis Disco, Four Winds Farm, Hartland, WI; 2. Walnut Corner Mentor Selma, Moser & Hoover, Pleasant Lake, IN

Junior 2-Year-Old (9)

1. Ayars Lindsey Manion Sho Snow, Ayars & Manion, Mechanicsburg, OH; 2. Adams Creek Regal Dancer, Brian & Kristi Dinderman, Orangeville, IL; 3. Wesgray Luther Daphne, Wesley Clark, Viola, WI

Senior 2-Year-Old (17)

1. Gurn Z Meadow Heavenly Haven, Jennifer Orchard, Madison, WI; 2. Prairie Cream Magicman Alyah ET, Kim & Kevin Lakey, Trempealeau, WI: 3. Land Of Living PJ Jam ET, Ayars & Manion, Mechanicsburg, OH

Kingsmill Futurity (12)

1. Four Winds Mentor Highlite ET, Four Winds Farm, Hartland, WI; 2. Quality Quest Mentor Prize ET, Weaver & Turley, Goshen, IN; 3. Walnut Corner Valiant Sam Kris, Walnut Corner Farm, Bismark, IL

Junior 3-Year-Old (10)

1. Moziers Kingsley Nicole of UTC, Karen Anderson, Lester Prairie, MN; 2. Walnut Corner Valiant Sam Kris, Walnut Corner Farm, Bismark, IL; 3. Villa Crest HP Havilah, Verl Weaver, Goshen, IN
Production Winner: Sandy Hill Whatevers Wonderful 2-03 305D 23,570M 4.8% 1,129F 3.2% 761P

Senior 3-Year-Old (7)

1. Four Winds Mentor Highlite ET, Four Winds Farm, Hartland, WI; 2. Quality Quest Mentor Prize ET, Weaver & Turley, Goshen, IN; 3. Knapps Deemand Tamaro, Austin & Landon Knapp, Epworth, IA
Production Winner: Quality Quest Mentor Prize 2-05 305D 23,046M 4.4% 1,017F 3.0% 692P

4-Year-Old (10)

1. Mar Kat Jake Elsie, Chupp, Griggs & Zapalac, Inola, OK; 2. Cozy Nook H Gypsy, Jens Lantz, Ellsworth, WI; 3. Millborne Tiller Blair, Millborne Farm, Granby, CT
Production Winner: Milk & Protein - Villa Crest Wynn Riona 3-07 305D 22,590M 4.9% 1,116F 3.5% 795P
Fat - Knapps Deemand Rebelious 2-11 305D 20,220M 6.0% 1,216F 3.7% 752P

5-Year-Old (7)

1. Loyal Acres Lewis Breezey, Austin & Landon Knapp, Epworth, IA; 2. Chapmans Vilter Ringer, Makayla Hickman, Shelbyville, TN; 3. R Way Tiller Liz, Millborne Farm, Granby, CT
Production Winner: Misty Meadows Neon Libby 3-07 305D 22,860M 4.0% 908F 3.1% 703P

Aged Cow (6)

1. Spring River Royal Happy, Ayars & Manion, Mechanicsburg, OH; 2. Wilsonview Roy Ida, Valley Gem Farm, Cumberland, WI; 3. Campbells Rodney Unify, Krissy Melander, Elkland, MO
Production Winner: Misty Meadows Spider Dafodil 3-10 305D 30,780M 4.1% 1,270F 3.5% 1,064P

Senior Best Three (6)

1. Four Winds Farm, Hartland, WI; 2. Verl Weaver, Goshen, IN; 3. Knapps Guernseys, Epworth, IA

Produce of Dam (9)

1. Millborne Farms, Granby, CT; 2. Four Winds Farm, Hartland, WI; 3. Four Winds Farm, Hartland, WI

Dam & Daughter (3)

1. Four Winds Farm, Hartland, WI; 2. Michael Offenheiser, Elizabeth, IL; 3. Knapps Guernseys, Epworth, IA

Exhibitors Herd (6)

1. Four Winds Farm, Hartland, WI; 2. Knapps Guernseys, Epworth, IA; 3. Millborne Farm, Granby, CT

Sixty-nine junior-owned animals made up the NJS-Madison. These animals are shown by their Junior owners alongside the open show animals, thus, Fowler Branstetter was also the judge for the Junior Show.

Ludlow Acres Silverado Classy-ET, owned by Jacob Mohr of Normal, Ill, was

NJS-Madison Grand Champions (l-r): Judge Fowler Branstetter; Cassie Terpstra, WI Guernsey Queen; Melanie Balinas, National Guernsey Princess; Karen Anderson with Reserve Grand Champion Moziers Kingsley Nicole of UTC; Austin & Landon Knapp with Grand Champion Loyal Acres Lewis Breezey; Udder Comfort Award Sponsor; Sarah Weimer, National Guernsey Queen

NJS-Madison Junior Champions (l-r): Cassie Terpstra, WI Guernsey Queen; Lars Sivesind with Reserve Junior Champion Prairie Moon S Raveen; Jacob Mohr with Junior Champion Ludlow Acres Silverado Classy-ET; Sarah Weimer, National Guernsey Queen

named Junior Champion. She is a Fall Yearling daughter of Coulee Crest RO Silverado-ET. She was nominated Jr. All-American Fall Calf in 2008. Her dam is a VG-88 Hot Shot with 22,000M, 1,100F and 750P. The next dam was a VG-85 Enhancer followed by a VG-89 Pender. Prairie Moon S Raveen, a Fall Calf owned by Lars and Landon Sivesind of Waukon, Iowa, was Reserve Junior Champion. She is sired by Four Winds Showtime-ET and out of a Prairie Moon Sydney daughter.

Loyal Acres Lewis Breezey, owned by Austin and Landon Knapp of Epworth, Iowa, took home the Grand Champion trophy. She was also named Res. Sr. Champion of the Open Show. She is a Lewis daughter from a Nitro dam. Moziers Kingslys Nicole of UTC, the winning Jr. Three-Year-Old in both the Open and Junior Show, was named Reserve Grand Champion. She is owned by Karen Anderson of Lester Prairie, Minnesota. Nicole is a VG-86 daughter of Wesgray Mozier JB Kingsley-ET, a full brother to AI Sire Knockout. She was nominated Jr. All-American Jr. Two-Year-Old in 2008 and made nearly 700F at 1-11. Her dam was an EX-91 Penny Lane Royal Oak Turley daughter that was Res. Jr. All-American Jr. Three-Year-Old in 2007 and nominated in 2006. She was purchased "in-dam" in the 2006 Ozark Jubilee Sale.

Knapps Challenge Betsann, a Jr. Two-Year-Old owned by Austin and Landon Knapp, was named the Best Bred and Owned animal of the show. She is sired by Idle Gold E Challenge and is out of an EX-90 Ace with nearly 1,200F, then an EX-93 Goliath with 1,800F.

The Junior State Herd awards mirrored those of the Open Show, with Wisconsin claiming the top spot, followed by Iowa and New York / New England.

Guernsey Junior Members fared well in other contests at World Dairy Expo as well. Karen Anderson of Lester Prairie, Minn., was the high individual in the National 4-H Judging Contest. Michelle Funk of Jeromesville, Ohio, and Robin Alden of Danville, Ohio, were members of the 4th-place Ohio 4-H team. Angie Boesche of DeKalb, Ill., was a member of the 8th-place Illinois team as well as the second-place Quiz Bowl team in the World Dairy Expo Quiz Bowl Contest. The Collegiate Judging contest was won by Sandra Kirchner of Clintonville, Wis. She was judging for the University of Wisconsin River Falls. Kim Wilson of Neosho, Missouri, was a member of the 9th-place Oklahoma State team. Matthew Henkes of Luna, Iowa, was the high individual in the Post-Secondary Judging Contest, competing for Northeast Iowa Community College. Matthew Jansen of Forest Grove, Oregon, was a member of the 9th-place team in that contest with Kaskaskia College. Ashley Dietz of Southington, Ohio, placed 8th in the Senior Showmanship Contest.

Spring Calf (7)

1. Lang Haven Christian Neena ET, Kirstie & Jenna Langrehr, West Salem, WI; 2. Gurn Z Meadow Peace Placid, Emma Weisensel, Marshall, WI; 3. Ashland Neon Taffy, Ashley Mergen, Glen Haven, WI (Best B&O)

Winter Calf (10)

1. R Way Aaron Flirt, Ashlee Dietz, Southington, OH (Best B&O); 2. Berryman Farm Special Violet, Katlyn Vencill, Nicholasville, KY; 3. Villa Crest Fame Nina, Marlys Weaver, Goshen, IN

Fall Calf (8)

1. Prairie Moon S Raveen, Lars & Landon Sivesind, Waukon, IA; 2. Knapps Challenge Ashlyn ET, Kyle Ripley, Moravia, NY; 3. R Way Neon Trina, Amber Dietz, Southington, OH (Best B&O)

Summer Yearling (7)

1. Ripley Farms Ad Coni Wisper ET, Esther Ripley, Moravia, NY; 2. Prairie Moon Show Bizz, Lars, Landon & Leslie Sivesind, Waukon, IA; 3. Sniders Gitgo Gerri, Connor Parker, Colfax, IA
Best B&O: Knapps Tornado Jadena, Austin & Landon Knapp

Spring Yearling (8)

1. Four Winds Showtime Hailey, Melanie Balinas, Hartland, WI; 2. Wee Acres Tyler Fresca, Lauren Woloohojian, West Greenwich, RI (Best B&O); 3. Knapps Regal Sizzle, Austin & Landon Knapp, Epworth, IA

Winter Yearling (7)

1. Knapps Special Jaylo, Austin & Landon Knapp, Epworth, IA; 2. Maplehurst Skipper Honey, Spencer Weimer, Emlenton, PA; 3. Ripley Farms Rlty Coni Pear, Matt Henkes, Luana, IA
Best B&O: Lang Haven Royalty Dream, Kirstie Langrehr, West Salem, WI

Fall Yearling (4)

1. Ludlow Acres Silverado Classy ET, Jacob Mohr, Carlock, IL; 2. Ripley Farms Sunrise Truffal, Kyle Ripley, Moravia, NY (Best B&O); 3. Knapps Ace Jada, Austin & Landon Knapp, Epworth, IA

Junior 2-Year-Old (2)

1. Knapps Challenge Betsann, Austin & Landon Knapp, Epworth, IA (Best B&O); 2. Moziers Turley Passion of UTC, Karen Anderson, Lester Prairie, MN

Senior 2-Year-Old (5)

1. Prairie Cream Magicman Alyah ET, Kim & Kevin Lakey, Trempealeau, WI; 2. Mi Wil Deemand Athena, Kim Wilson, Neosho, MO (Best B&O); 3. Up The Creeks Montes Hope, Karen & Kevin Anderson, Lester Prairie, MN

Junior 3-Year-Old (3)

1. Moziers Kingsley Nicole of UTC, Karen Anderson, Lester Prairie, MN; 2. Knapps Special Jadyn, Austin & Landon Knapp, Epworth, IA (Best B&O); 3. Flambeau Manor Regis Lady, Laura Jensen, Comstock, WI
Production Winner: Knapps Special Jadyn 1-11 305D 18,930M 4.9% 928F 3.3% 630P

Senior 3-Year-Old (3)

1. Knapps Deemand Tamaro, Austin & Landon Knapp, Epworth, IA; 2. Flambeau Manor Tiller Anita ET, Jaclyn Peterson, Wilson, WI; 3. Knapps Regis Sissy, Austin & Landon Knapp, Epworth, IA
Production Winner: Milk & Protein - Knapps Deemand Tamaro 1-11 305D 17,702M 4.7% 836F 3.1% 557P
Fat - Knapps Regis Sissy 2-02 305D 16148M 5.4% 865F 3.3% 540P

4-Year-Old (3)

1. Villa Crest Wynn Riona, Marlys Weaver, Goshen, IN (Best B&O); 2. Knapps Deemand Rebelious, Austin & Landon Knapp, Epworth, IA; 3. Derinda Les W Corolla, Michael Offenheiser, Elizabeth, IL
Production Winner: Milk & Protein - Villa Crest Wynn Riona 3-07 305D 22,590M 4.9% 1,116F 3.5% 795P
Fat - Knapps Deemand Rebelious 2-11 305D 20,220M 6.0% 1,216F 3.7% 752P

5-Year-Old (1)

1. Loyal Acres Lewis Breezey, Austin & Landon Knapp, Epworth, IA

Aged Cow (2)

1. Campbells Rodney Unify, Krissy Melander, Elkland, MO; 2. Up The Creek Valiants Sagwa, Karen Anderson, Lester Prairie, MN
Production Winner: Milk & Protein - Campbells Rodney Unify 4-11 305D 20,490M 4.2% 854F 3.6% 738P
Fat - Up The Creek Valiants Sagwa - Fat 5-02 305D 18,140M 5.5% 993F 3.9% 700P

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International Guernsey Classic Sale Report

International Guernsey Classic High Seller (l-r): Stanley Chupp, auctioneer; Blaine Crosser, pedigrees; Melanie Balinas, National Guernsey Princess; Dale Chupp, sale staff; Jason Yurs of Hoards Dairyman, consignor; Karen Anderson, leadsperson; Bob Griggs, sale staff; John Fudge, representing the buyer; Jim Trotter, sale staff; Sarah Weimer, National Guernsey Queen

International Guernsey Classic Second High Seller (l-r): Stanley Chupp, auctioneer; Blaine Crosser, pedigrees; Melanie Balinas, National Guernsey Princess; Dale Chupp, sale staff; Andrew McCarty, buyer; Karen Anderson, leadsperson; Bob Griggs, sale staff; Sarah Weimer, National Guernsey Queen; Jim Trotter, sale staff

The International Guernsey Classic Sale, held on October 1 at World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wis, reflected the poor milk prices of the past year, yet provided a festive event for current and past Guernsey breeders in town for the NGS-Madison. Sixteen live animals averaged $2,391 while 33 embryos sold for an average of $305 each.

The top selling lot was a rare consignment from Hoard's Dairyman Farm of Ft. Atkinson, Wis. They chose to sell their fanciest calf this year and were excited to see her stand fourth in the impressive Fall Calf class prior to the sale. Dairyman Mr America Dare-ET is a Knapps Mr America out of an EX-90 Tiller dam with over 800F. The next dam was VG-87 with over 1,000F and 100,000M lifetime. She sold for $4,400 to Sydney Willingham of Gamaliel, Kentucky.

The second high seller was added to the lineup the day of the sale, as so many great ones have been in the past. Rocky Hill Magicman Sonador is a Junior Two-Year-Old that went on to stand 5th in the NGS-Madison the next day for her new owner, Thomas McCarty of Hughesville, Penn. They purchased her from Gary Estes and Associates of Rogersville, Missouri, for $3,300. She is out of a VG-85 Warden daughter backed by three dams that average 84 points, each with over 850F.

Golden I LDN Hotdamn, EX-90, stood at the end of the sale lineup all week impressing visitors with her lovely udder. This third-calf daughter of Lang Haven Decision Natural is out of a VG-88 Sharp with nearly 900F. Three of the next five dam were scored EX-90. Her pedigree goes back to the maternal line that produced popular AI Sires Hot Shot and Magician. The Carolina Gold Syndicate of Newberry, South Carolina, purchased her for $3,100 from Neil Jensen and Steve Sywassink of Comstock, Wis., and Letts, Iowa.

The sale was managed by Guernsey Marketing Service. Stan Chupp handled the gavel while Blaine Crosser made pedigree announcements. Dale Chupp, Jim Trotter and Bob Griggs took bids from the large crowd. Katie Henson and Hannah Iverson clerked the sale. Jens Lantz and Karen Anderson presented the cattle in the ring. Jason Robinson, Erica Davis, Mike Hickman, Larry Johns, Josh Jones and Alan Moore had them looking great all week.

Consignments Selling over $2000:

Dairyman Mr America Dare-ET (10/08) $4400
Sire: Knapps Mr America-ET
B: Sydney Willingham, Gamaliel, KY
C: Hoard's Dairyman Farm, Ft. Atkinson, WI

Rocky Hill Magicman Sonador (04/07) $3300
Sire: Four Winds Magicman-ET
B: Thomas McCarty, Hughesville, PA
C: Gary Estes, Rogersville, MO

Golden I LDN Hotdamn (07/05) $3100
Sire: Lang Haven Decision Natural
B: Carolina Gold Syndicate, Newberry, SC
C: Idle Gold Associates, Letts, IA

Misty Meadows Hillpoint F Devine-ET (09/08) $2700
Sire: Dutch Mill Telestars Fayette
B: William Hipsher, Rutledge, TN
C: City Slickers & Randy Peterson, Cross Plains, WI

Catoctin Hawks Francis (01/09) $2700
Sire: Jens Gold G Hawk
B: Becky Meyer Freed, Fairbury, IL
C: Friendship Farm, Millbrook, NY

Knapps Apie Jaydeen-ET (03/09) $2550
Sire: Indian Acres American Pie-ET
B: Troy Nevil, New Glarus, WI
C: Austin & Landon Knapp, Epworth, IA

Balsam Grove Skips Vigor (08/07) $2200
Sire: Coulee Crest Luxury Skipper-ET
B: Ryan Bass, Reedsburg, WI
C: Alan Overland, Sturgeon Lake, MN

Rae Mar Altanics Flint (09/07) $2100
Sire: Sniders Tiller Altanic-ET
B: Hoard's Dairyman Farm, Ft. Atkinson, WI
C: Walnut Corner Farm, Bismarck, IL

Sniders Allman Allie (01/07) $2100
Sire: Sniders Deemand Allman-ET
B: Hoard's Dairyman Farm, Ft. Atkinson, WI
C: Walnut Corner Farm, Bismarck, IL

Balsam Grove Challs Vingette (09/07) $2100
Sire: Idle Gold E Challenge-ET
B: Carl Hendrickson, Beldenville, WI
C: Alan Overland, Sturgeon Lake, MN

Warwick Manor Lucas Mint (06/08) $2000
Sire: Rutter Bros Allman Lucas
B: Walt & Jan Haybert, Middleton, TN
C: Warwick Manor, East Earl, PA

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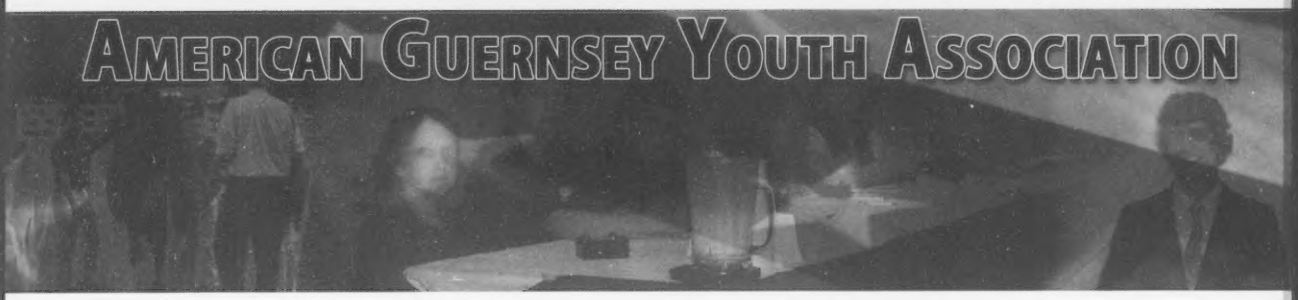


Catching up with the Queens!

Every year, two new ladies have the opportunity to represent the Guernsey breed as the National Queen and Princess. These young ladies have done an excellent job of helping the Guernsey breed be the best it can be, so we thought it would be great to see what they are up to now. Their industry knowledge, experience and advice to youth is deeply appreciated!

Katie Dixon

The 2000 National Queen was Katie Dixon. She attended the University of Maryland and received her BS in Animal Sciences in 2001. After some ups and downs, Katie has settled in Maryland with her daughter, Whitney. Dixon is a soil conservation planner with the Kent Soil Conservation District.

Katie misses being on a farm and would love to work with Guernseys again. But, she is involved with coaching dairy bowl and judging and helping her cousins show cattle. Whitney, who is now in kindergarten, will soon be able to show a Guernsey heifer of her own.

Katie's advice to the youth is to be proud and promote the Guernsey cow to everyone whenever you can. She said to talk to the breeders and take their advice, and listen to their ideas and experiences. Don't be afraid of change and to enjoy every moment of doing what you love.

Becky Meyer

Becky was the National Guernsey Princess in 2000 and she is from Illinois. She attended the University of Illinois and received her Masters in Agricultural Education and now she teaches high school agricultural classes in Dwight, Illinois. Last year, Becky married Jon Freed and now lives in Fairbury, Illinois, just six miles from her family's farm, Erdman Dairy.

Becky said she greatly treasures the friendships she made with Guernsey enthusiasts all over the country. Her advice to the future Guernsey royalty is to always be thankful for what the Guernsey cow has brought to your life and remember that she needs you to be her cheerleader.

Hannah Kohler

Hannah was the National Guernsey Queen in 2001. Hannah graduated from Ohio State University with her BS and MED in Elementary Education, a degree which is useful in her current position as a 4-H Educator in Fairfield County, Ohio.

Her highlights from her year as queen include meeting many breeders from all over the nation, visiting amazing farms, traveling to new and exciting places and making life long friendships. Hannah's advice to the youth is "you need the Guernsey cow and the Guernsey cow needs you!"

Jessie Eilers

Jessica was the 2001 National Guernsey Princess. She went to college at the University of Wisconsin- Platteville for Dairy Science and also Kirkwood Community College- Ag Business Degree. She has plans to be married in April of 2010 to Jason Sparks.

Eilers lives on a small farm outside of Hopkinton, Iowa, with Jason and his 2 children Austin (11) and Ashlynn (8). Both children are taking a liking to dairy cows and the farm. Austin just participated in his first year of 4-H, winning Reserve Supreme at the Jones County Fair! JJessica has worked at Innovative Ag Services for four years, starting out in Accounts Receivable and moving up to be the Assistant IT Manager. Her parents own Sandy Hill Farm, a small, family farm consisting of 25 Guernseys, Jerseys and Milking Shorthorns. They have 4 cows currently on the CPI list, and have started doing more embryo harvesting and marketing. Sandy Hill Guernseys is still very active showing cattle at all the state shows, and Madison and Louisville.

More updates on some of the other ladies from the royalty past to come in future months!

Hannah Kohler and Jessica Eilers in 2001 as they served as National Queen and Princess, respectively.

Katie Dixon, left, and Becky Meyer, right, served as the 2000 Guernsey Queen and Princess.

Canadian National Show

Candadian National Show Grand Champions (l-r): Murray Reissner; Bruce Telfer, Award sponsor; Ken Forster with Reserve Grand Champion Maplehurst Tiller Amen; Mr. Watson with Grand Champion Maplehurst Russ Magic; Rob Forster

The Canadian National Show was held on September 25 in Ancaster, Ontario. Murray Reissner was the official judge. 67 animals were exhibited with an impressive 8 entries in both Breeders' Herd and Jr. Best Three Females.

All four champions are bred and owned by Maplehurst Farm of Lynden, Ontario. Maplehurst Magicman Bathsheba, was named Junior Champion. She is a Magicman daughter from a VG-88 Royal Acres Enhancer JB daughter with over 23,000M, 900F and nearly 800P. The dam was the winning two-year-old at the National Show in 2006. The next dam was an EX-90 Diplomat with 20,000M and 1,000F. She was Grand Champion of the Royal Winter Fair in 2000. The next dam was an EX-90 Frank, followed by the world-famous brood cow Laeschland TS Biddy, EX-94. Reserve Junior Champion honors went to Maplehurst Hawks Lolipop. She is a daughter of Jens Gold G Hawk out of a VG-88 Maplehurst B G Romeo daughter that made over 19,500M and 850F. The next dam was an EX-90 NP King with over 200,000M lifetime. The next dam was scored Good Plus and her dam came from the Lebanon Valley herd in Pennsylvania.

Grand Champion honors went to Maplehurst Russ Music, VG-88. She is a daughter of Aldens Russ with production credits over 22,000M, 875F and 700P. Her dam was an EX-90 Loral with over 125,000M lifetime. The next dam was Good Plus and made over 130,000M lifetime. The Reserve Champion banner went to Maplehurst Tiller Amen, GP-84. She is a Tiller daughter from a VG-88 Garth daughter that is just short of 100,000M lifetime. The Garth is also the granddam of the 2008 Res. All-American Fall Calf, Maplehurst Skipper Auralee.

Junior Calf (5)

1. Maplehurst Archies Trinket, Maplehurst Farm, Lynden, ON; 2. Don Haven Neon Vibrant, Don Haven Farms, Rockwood, ON; 3. Don Haven Power Vintage, Don Haven Farms, Rockwood, ON

Intermediate Calf (5)

1. Maplehurst Magicman Bathsheba, Maplehurst Farm, Lynden, ON; 2. Don Haven Showtime Vesta, Don Haven Farms, Rockwood, ON; 3. Maplehurst Blue Spruce Brava, Maplehurst Farm, Lynden, ON

Senior Calf (6)

1. Running Spring Becky, Running Spring Farms, Caledonia, ON; 2. Maplehurst Archie Nada, Maplehurst Farm, Lynden, ON; 3. Big Spring Showtime Winstar, Eby Manor Ltd, Waterloo, ON

Intermediate Yearling (11)

1. Maplehurst Hawks Lolipop, Maplehurst Farm, Lynden, ON; 2. Sun Set Stone Natalenda, Sun Set Guernseys, Sunderland, ON; 3. Running Spring Sundance, Running Spring Farm, Caledonia, ON

Senior Yearling (8)

1. Sun Set Louie Fancy, Sun Set Guernseys, Sunderland, ON; 2. Running Spring Shania, Running Spring Farm, Caledonia, ON; 3. Warrindale Levi Abby, Warrindale Farms, Sunderland, ON

Junior Best Three (8)

1. Maplehurst Farm, Lynden, ON; 2. Sun Set Guernseys, Sunderland, ON; 3. Running Spring Farm, Caledonia, ON

2-Year-Old (7)

1. Maplehurst Tiller Amen, Maplehurst Farm, Lynden, ON; 2. Maplehurst Nitro Better, Maplehurst Farm, Lynden, ON; 3. Don Haven Royalty Vanity, Don Haven Farms, Rockwood, ON

3-Year-Old (8)

1. Maplehurst Deemand Brigida, Maplehurst Farm, Lynden, ON; 2. Don Haven Warden Venus, Don Haven Farms, Rockwood, ON; 3. Maplehurst Decision Winter, Maplehurst Farm, Lynden, ON

4-Year-Old (7)

1. Maplehurst Russ Music, Maplehurst Farm, Lynden, ON; 2. Broadview Romona, Broadview Farm, Maple, ON; 3. Maplehurst Romeos Beth, Maplehurst Farm, Lynden, ON

5-Year-Old (5)

1. Maplehurst Poker Better, Maplehurst Farm, Lynden, ON; 2. Maplehurst Turleys Marissa, Maplehurst Farm, Lynden, ON; 3. Eby Manor Lewis Indigo, Eby Manor Ltd, Waterloo, ON

Produce of Dam (9)

1. Don Haven Farms, Rockwood, ON; 2. Maplehurst Farm, Lynden, ON; 3. Don Haven Farms, Rockwood, ON

Breeders Herd (8)

1. Maplehurst Farm, Lynden, ON; 2. Don Haven Farms, Rockwood, ON; 3. Eby Manor Ltd, Waterloo, ON

Premier Breeder & Exhibitor

Maplehurst Farm, Lynden, ON

Candadian National Show Junior Champion (l-r): Murray Reisnner; Terry Beckett, award sponsor; Jocelyn Forster with Junior Champion Maplehurst Magicman Bathsheba

Candadian National Show Reserve Junior Champion (l-r): Jim Eby' Rob Forster with Junior Champion Maplehurst Hawks Lolipop; Murray Reisnner

Road Recollections

Brian Schnebly

In early September I travelled abroad to Australia to serve as the judge for the Royal Adelaide Guernsey Show. This year, Guernseys were the feature breed and the South Australian Branch worked very hard to try to get a strong representation of Guernseys at the show. Their hard work more than paid off, as cattle came from about five states and there were roughly 65 head of cattle at the show. What an outstanding display of Guernsey cattle and an absolute honor to be the judge of the show! Contrary to the trend of many shows in the U.S. as the show went on the classes got larger and the quality of the animals kept getting better and better. The show started with the Dry Cow class and then two classes of unfresh two-year-olds. Then simply 3 heifer classes: an 18-month-old class, a yearling heifer class and a calf class which consisted of animals born in 2009. For selection of Junior Champion, I chose an outstanding Yearling heifer sired by Brookland Eby Manor Billboard Wayne. This bull is from the Wayward family at Jim Eby's in Canada. She was a very stylish individual with a lot of dairyness and was owned by Lynden and Joyce Cleggett.

Following my selection for junior champion, we moved right into the young cow classes and that is when the real "cow" show began. The first class was comprised of 5 really nice 2-year-olds, including two Aaron daughters, and was won by a Tiller daughter who is typical of what we have come to expect of the Tillers. The next class was the 2 ½-year-old class (similar to Sr. 2's) and was won by a homebred cow of Amy Cleggett's that was quality from end to end, especially in her udder. This cow had been milking since January and appeared a little stale which eventually caught up with her in the later Champion classes. The 3-year-old class was then won by a very impressive Spider daughter and she went on to be my selection for Intermediate Champion. This cow was extremely dairy with a lot of dairy strength and a deep, open rib. She was one of 3 cows in the show from a herd that travelled all the way from Western Australia, a trip which consumed nearly 40 hours as they stopped every 8 hours to feed, water and milk the animals.

During a short break, before the 4-year-old cow class I spoke with a friend that I had met during his visits to the states in the past, Ray Fiebiger. Ray mentioned to me that now they were going to make me work a little bit and that the cow show was just beginning. As it turned out, Ray was exactly right! The next 4 classes were some of the best quality classes I have ever had the opportunity to judge. Two cows at the top of the 4-year-old class could be the cows to beat in the future. The first place cow was an extremely youthful Nitro daughter with a fantastic udder. She was in her second lactation and the udder was extremely well attached with perfect teat placement and was high above her hock. She just so happened to be owned by Ray Fiebiger. The second place cow was also an outstanding cow in her own right. This Tiller daughter was unfortunately only in her first lactation and therefore lacked a little bloom and maturity to get over the tremendous first place winner.

When the five-year-old class entered the ring I saw a cow that I knew it would take a really good one to beat. This cow had style, balance, dairyness, great feet and legs and maybe the best part of the cow was her rear udder. Just a super high, wide rear udder that was several inches above the hock and then I learned that she was a 4th lactation five-year-old and it was game over! She is owned by Lyndon and Joyce Cleggett and is sired by one of their own bulls that was sampled in Australia - Brookleigh BQ Action.

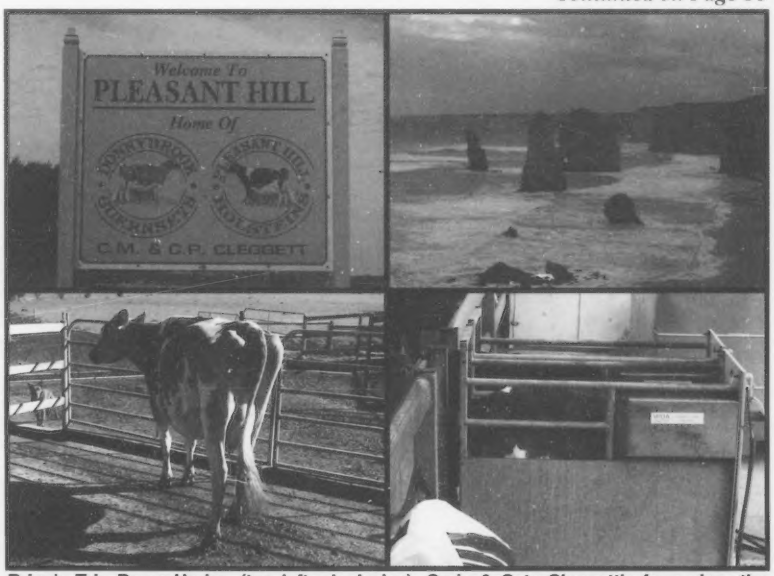
The last individual class of the day was the Aged Cow class and it was won by a Magicman daughter that defined the term dairyness. She was so angular, and had so much depth and openness of rib. I learned after the show that she had been a fan-favorite of many during the World Guernsey Conference and she was Honorable Mention Grand Champion at the World Guernsey Conference Show.

In my selection for Senior and Grand Champion of the show, I found it very tough to get around the winning 5-year-old. She just had a decided advantage in height and width of rear udder and strength of udder attachments. Lyndon Cleggett also exhibited the Reserve Champion cow which was the winning 6-year-old cow and the Aged Cow that I just talked about was my Honorable Mention.

Following all of the group classes, I joined the other breed judges to help with the All-Breeds competition. Just as it was when I judged in Brisbane in 2003, the All-Breeds competition was certainly one of the highlights of my trip, because of the method they go about selecting the champions. Each judge has to place all the breeds in order from first to last, with the exception of their own breed. Then we each gave reasons on our placing. The scores were then tabulated from all the judges to determine the winner. Not only is there a Supreme Overall Champion, but there was Supreme Heifer, Supreme Intermediate Champion, Supreme Best 3 Females, and finally Supreme Group of 5 females which is comprised of 5 of the best animals each breed has to offer regardless of owner. I am proud to say that the Supreme Best 3 Females group was the Guernsey group from the Brookleigh stud, Lyndon, Joyce, Amy, Keith and Rick Cleggett.

Throughout the day it was amazing the

Continued on Page 16



Brian's Trip Down Under: (top left, clockwise): Craig & Cate Cleggett's farm sign; the Twelve Apostles; the automatic calf feeder at Craig & Cate Cleggett's; Westdama Tiller Nina, 2nd place 5-year-old at Adelaide and the 2009 Grand Champion at IDW in January

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Queens Comments

Sarah Weimer

As you are reading this, I imagine that you are reminiscing about the good times you experienced at the shows we have looked forward to all year long. You may be thinking about the cows you had successes with, the people you shared laughs with and the changes you will make for next year. Perhaps, if you couldn't make it to the shows this year, then you are using this Journal to see how your Guernsey friends made out in the show ring. I am sure that by the time I read this in print I will be doing the same. But right now, as I sit to write this article, my room has an open suitcase ready to be filled in the corner; piles of clothes are up for consideration across the floor along with a stack of homework that needs doing before I fly away once again.

I am both reminiscing about the shows I have already had the opportunity to experience as the National Guernsey Queen and possibly more-so looking ahead to the final leg of our tanbark trail. As I pack for this trip to Louisville and the North American International Livestock Exposition, I have a check list in my mind of all the things I need to take with me, just as I did when I was setting out for Harrisburg and Madison earlier in the fall. I think about all the different roles I will play when I am away at the show, and then I pack everything from suits and high heels to old jeans and barn boots – so that I am ready to be a good daughter and sister at a casual dinner out with my family, a little bit of help to our show crew as we get cattle ready, a good student when I hop into my pj's for some quality study time, and, of course, be prepared to fulfill my duties and try to look the part of the National Guernsey Queen. These different roles I play may require different outfits, but they are really very similar because they all link back to my love of the dairy industry and the Guernsey cow.

When I was younger, I used to think that the girls I saw in crowns were the only ones who could do what they did. Now, as I look at Melanie and myself from a slightly different perspective, I see that, yes, we are the ones lucky enough to wear the crowns this year. And with that come a few things that I've heard about, but had not experienced until this year's World Dairy Expo. As past Guernsey royalty had told me, we did get attention from international guests just because of our crowns, and the only reason I was in so many photos at shows is because of the title displayed on my banner. But when I think about the real role I filled as the National Guernsey Queen, many of those moments were not in crown and sash.

I think that the role of Guernsey royalty is to promote the Guernsey cow, the Guernsey Association, and the entire dairy industry, of which we are a part. I think that the shiny stuff we wear on our heads helps to make us more approachable, but what I learned at Madison was that I didn't need to be wearing a banner with my title, have a crown on my head, or even be dressed professionally to fulfill the role of a Guernsey promoter. In just the first hour I was there, I had the good fortune to be in the right place when a group of school children started asking questions about the cows at the show. I was able to talk to them about how ear tags only hurt for a moment, just like when we pierce our ears, but that it's a good thing in the end. I told them that the cows at the show had just had their hair done – like we girls might for a fancy occasion like prom – and that's why they had been asked not to touch the cows when walking through the barns. Another day I was sitting with our show string and a man who didn't know me stopped by to ask about where he could find Guernseys to buy because he was thinking about transitioning his herd over to Guernseys.

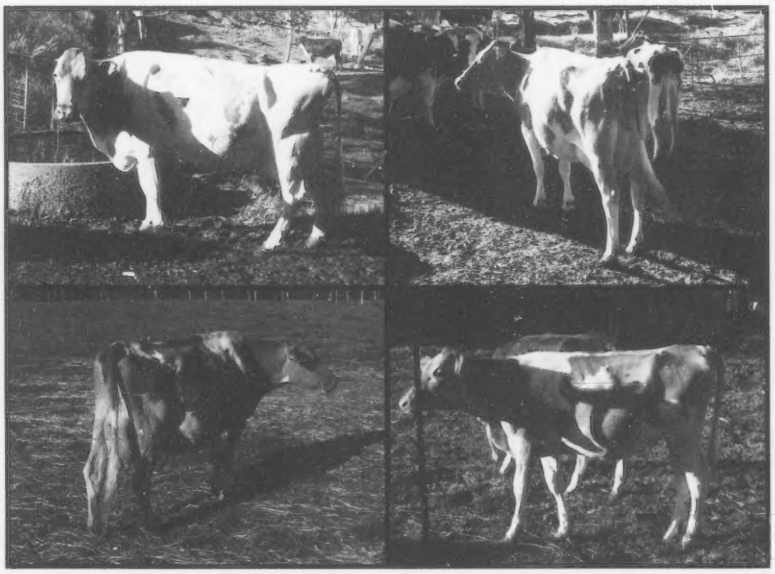
These moments were special to me because they helped me to realize that the promotion I had just done was not about any title, but rather about the role that I fill as a Guernsey enthusiast. Any one of you is just as able to promote the Guernsey cow and the dairy industry at any time. It doesn't matter what outfit you are wearing or what role you had planned to fill, because at the core of each of us is a Guernsey enthusiast. Congratulations on a successful show season, and thanks for all the laughs and smiles we shared.

Road Recollections
Continued from Page 14

amount of people at ringside watching the show. Being the feature breed, a lot of the other breeds had already shown and thus breeders had time to take a break and go watch some of the Guernsey show. It was also comforting to hear so many good comments from the other breed judges during the All-Breed Competition about the quality of the Guernsey cattle.

Later that evening I also had the opportunity to judge the All-Breed Showmanship competition. What an awesome event for the kids! It was in the evening when nothing else was going on and everyone's attention was on the job the kids were doing in the ring. There were three different age groups and each one had at least 15 kids in the class, with both older groups having at least 25. In the oldest class, we almost did not have enough room for everyone in the ring! Placing the kids was a difficult task, but it was a lot of fun and something I was honored to do.

Once my judging responsibilities were over, I spent a full week visiting with breed-



Brian's Trip Down Under: (top left, clockwise): Sunny Valley Tiller Bess, EX-90 -was Grand Champion at the Royal Brisbane Show in August; Her full sister, Sunny Valley Tiller Bell, VG-89 was Reserve Grand Champion at the same show; One of the fancy Mar Ral Tiller Mission daughters at Warren Gibson's; The "underscored" Onward daughter at Warren Gibson's

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ers and touring several farms across Southern and Eastern Australia. The first day after judging actually was spent in Adelaide. The Federal Council held a meeting at which I spoke about our genomics research and also promoted the World Guernsey Conference which is being held next July in Canada. In the afternoon I travelled with Ernie Brown and Gil Cleggett up to visit Ray Fiebiger's Keywyn stud where we were directed by Ray's son Darren. That evening the Guernsey society held a dinner and Amy Cleggett organized a youth auction at the end of the evening (no doubt influenced by her experience at the Pennsylvania State Meeting in April). A great time was had by all and it made for a perfect ending to the enjoyable week all the Guernsey breeders had at the Adelaide show.

The next morning I began my whirlwind tour through Australia by flying to Melbourne where I was met by Peter Dickson of Semex. Peter showed me around Victoria for a day and a half, visiting with Guernsey breeders Peter Saint and Steve Waterson. We also stopped in briefly at a Holstein dispersal sale and also toured "The Twelve Apostles", a tourist landmark along the Southern Coast of Australia. Peter returned me to South Australia where I spent a couple days visiting Matt & Kate Seeliger, Craig & Cate Cleggett, and Lyndon & Joyce Cleggett. At these three farms I saw some really good Nitro daughters, several outstanding Tiller daughters and quite a few Aaron daughters that were very impressive. The Aaron daughters were all ages. Lyndon is milking about 5 daughters and these along with some I saw later in the week, followed a very distinct pattern. They were smaller in stature with awesome rear udders; high and wide attachments with a very strong udder cleft. Some tended to be a little high in the pins. While they do not have the frames that are pleasing to all breeders, I was impressed with the pattern and I think they will be very profitable cows that last.

I spent the first afternoon with Matt Seeliger as I waited for the Cleggetts to return home from Adelaide. Matt milks just a few Guernseys with his outstanding herd of Holsteins but they are an outstand-

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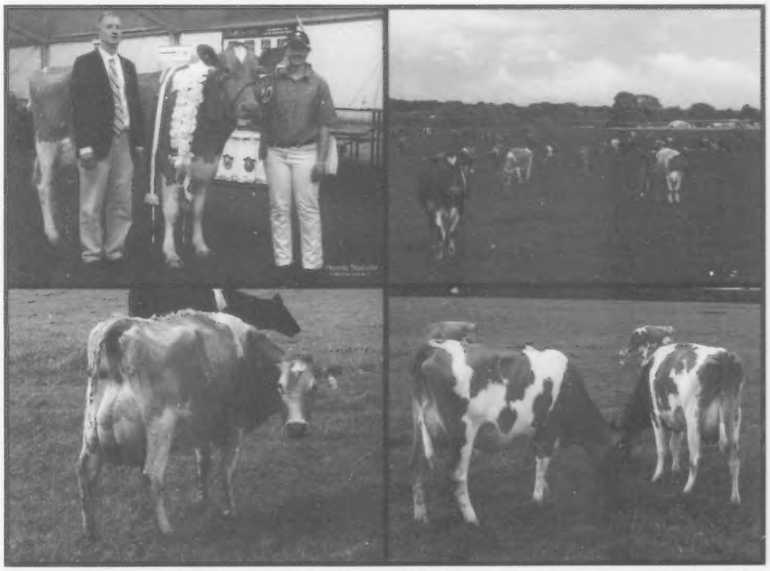

Brian's Trip Down Under: (top left, clockwise): The Grand Champion was Brookleigh Actions Brunch, a 5-year-old owned by Lyndon & Joyce Cleggett and Family; The Brookleigh milking herd; the cow on the left was first 2-year-old at Adelaide; cow on right was first 2 1/2 year-old in Adelaide; one of many Aaron daughters seen in Australia

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Calendar of Events

Deadlines

November 27 - All-American & Junior All-American Entries Due
November 30 - Golden Guernsey Futurity Payment Due
December 4 - Late Entry for All-American and Junior All-American at ***DOUBLE FEE!***
January 10 - Ad deadline for February '10 *Journal - All-American Nomination issue*
February 10 - Ad deadline for March '10 *Journal - All-American Winners issue*

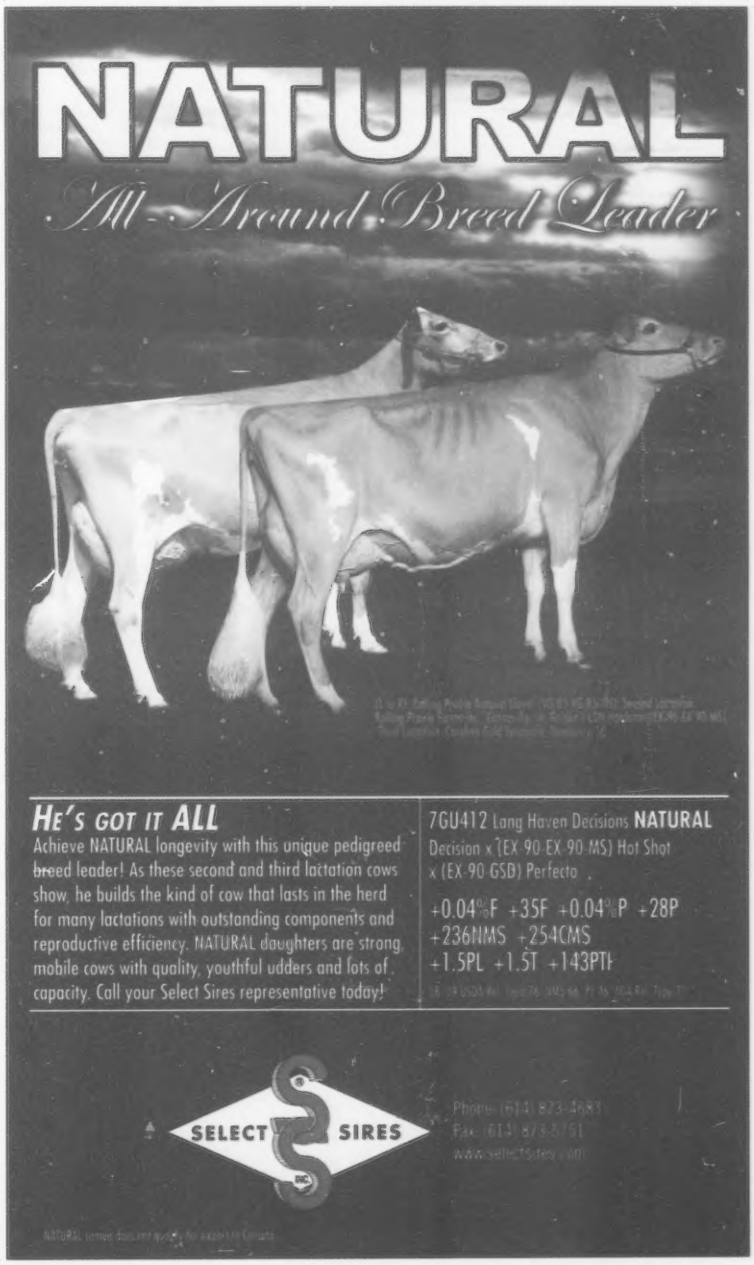
Golden Focus

Continued from Page 6

breeders to try to concentrate the best genes (linebreeding). Some breeders found considerable success with this breeding plan.

The sires most related to our cow population at this time, in order, are: Dutch Mill Telestars Fayette, Lily Lane Penny Perfecto-ET, Sherma Victory Ellas Enhancer, Trotacre Loral Tiller-ET, Maurana Wis Telestar, Trotacre Mercury Lorry-ET, Trotacre Mercury Loral-ET.

The breed would miss some important progress for important traits if we completely avoided these high-impact sires – their influence is widespread for a reason. Yet, we must also be diligent in our efforts to build greater genetic diversity in the Guernsey breed.



Our "A" Team Continues...

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4-02 305D 21,670M 5.5% 1,196F 3.5% 762P
5-07 365D 21,930M 4.6% 1,016F 3.7% 815P
Life: 100,930M 4.8% 4,865F 3.6% 3,655P
Next Dam: Altann EX-95

Sniders Mentor Apricot-TW EX-90
2nd Sr. 3-Year-Old NGS-Harrisburg
Dam: SNIDERS SENSATION ALTIMA VG-88
5-01 365D 23,800M 4.5% 1,082F 3.5% 829P
6-06 365D 22,240M 4.4% 969F 3.5% 771P
Life: 134,870M 4.6% 6,262F 3.5% 4,767P
2nd dam: SNIDERS PERFECT ACTRESS EX-92
3-02 305D 20,690M 4.2% 863F 3.3% 674P
5-04 305D 32,810M 4.5% 1,473F 3.1% 1,020P
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Twice Res. Jr. AA in milking form

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4-08 305D 23,300M 4.9% 1,148F 3.3% 767P
Dam: SNIDERS BEN ALIYAH EX-93

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Mary & Jessie

Road Recollections
Continued from Page 17

ing group, most of which descend from the same maternal line, one that originated from the Brookleigh herd.

At Craig and Cate Cleggett's I was intrigued by their automatic calf feeder. I had heard of a couple in the United States but had never seen one in action. At Craig's, the calves were in two separate pens, each one with access to a nipple attached to a computer and to a milk vat. The computer was programmed to allow each calf to drink four times per day and would keep track of which calves drank and which ones didn't so Craig could monitor their intake. The pen with older calves also had access to an outside lot for exercise. The housing structure was a "greenhouse-style coverall building". The idea behind the calf feeder is so calves can drink smaller amounts more frequently, rather than the slug feeding practice that is the norm in the United States.

One Sunday afternoon I visited the Brookleigh herd and after a wonderful lunch served by Joyce, Lyndon and Amy Cleggett took time out of their busy schedule to show me all around their farm, home of over 500 Guernseys. After returning home from Adelaide, they only had a day and a half and then they were off to another show in Melbourne. While at Lyndon's I was very impressed by several Verdict daughters in the yearling heifer pens. They were heifers with a lot of strength and width but with style as well.

After spending a few nights in South Australia, I flew up to Ballina, which is along the Eastern coast, north of Sydney where I was met by Julie Clark. I spent roughly the next two days with the Clark family, viewing their outstanding herd of cattle, indulging in a customary Australian Barbeque and simply enjoying the Clark family's wonderful hospitality. One afternoon we even took a trip to the beach and spent a little time wading in the Pacific Ocean.

The Clark family's Sunny Valley herd is a tremendous herd of Guernseys and Holsteins. Allan has bred cows with a lot of width, power and strength over the years and his breeding goals are definitely evident when looking through the herd. He uses a large percentage of U.S. genetics and one of his daughters told me that our Guernsey Breeders' Journal is his bible. Bulls that have really worked well for them are Tiller and Magicman and the next bull on the horizon for them just might be Adacka. While they did not have any Adacka daughters milking yet, their heifers were very impressive. They have size, strength and depth and Allan was anxious to get a few of them in the milking herd.

After finishing my time with the Clark family, Allan, Julie and I headed north to visit Warren Gibson in Queensland. There we were greeted by Warren and had a wonderful tea prepared by his mother, who is now 99 years old. I was completely stunned as I walked in and his mother welcomed me and told me she remembered exactly where I sat for tea when I visited 6 years ago! If I am lucky enough to live to be in my 90's, I hope my memory is half that good! After tea, we went out to view Warren's herd, where I saw one of the best Jensgolden Sentry Onward daughters I have ever seen. My usual role was reversed as I looked at this cow because after hearing she classified VG-85 just a few days earlier, my immediate response was,"she is very much underscored!" Warren also had a couple of really nice Mar Ral Tiller Mission calves that had a lot of depth of rib and substance of bone.

Gibson's was my last tour of the trip, as the next morning it I began my long journey home. Once again I had a great time visiting all of my Australian friends. I stayed with many of the same families that I did when I was over in 2003 and that made it even more enjoyable. I have developed some great friendships that will last a lifetime and I am forever indebted to the Guernsey cow for all the opportunities she has provided me over the years. The one thing that is constant all across the world is that Guernsey breeders are second-to-none. As I said back in 2003, this will not be the last time I visit Australia and I definitely recommend the trip to anyone not afraid of spending 12 consecutive hours on one plane.

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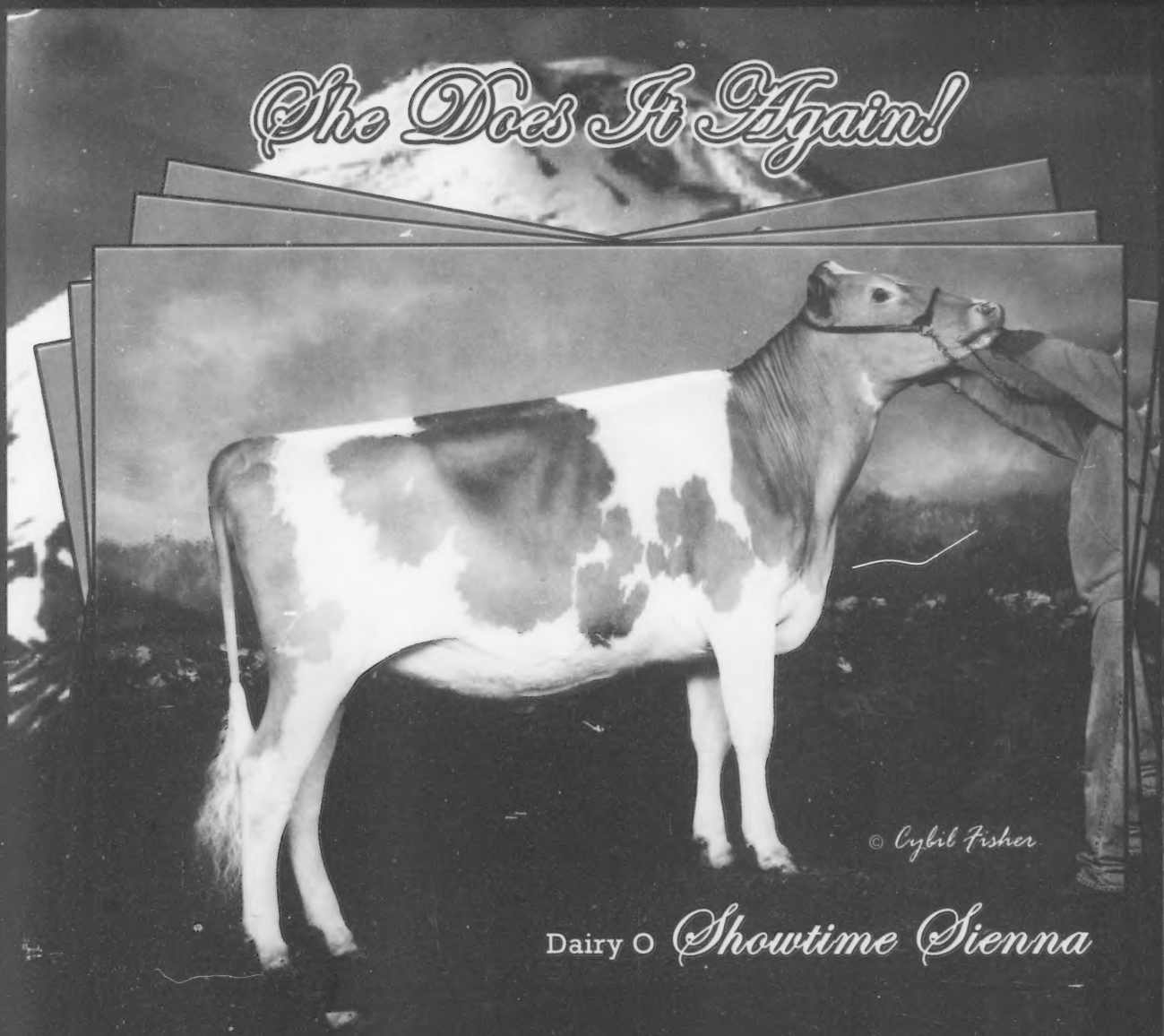

Dairy O *Showtime Sienna*

1st Fall Yearling & HM Junior Champion NGS-Madison

2009 was another memorable year for SummitRidge Guernseys!

Thanks to all that made it possible including our show crew and those that stayed home again this year. It would not be possible without all your help!

Another huge Thank You to Nicky Reape for getting Sienna to look her finest!

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